

In the Matter of)	File Number EB-03-KC-061
)	
Alliance Communications Partners, LP)	NAL/Acct. No.200332560025
Owner of Antenna Supporting Structure 1006376)	
in Ellsinore, Missouri)	FRN 0005-7978-99
Denver, Colorado)	

NOTICE OF APPARENT LIABILITY FOR FORFEITURE

Released: April 14, 2003

By the Enforcement Bureau, Kansas City Office:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In this Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (“NAL”), we find Alliance Communications Partners, LP, owner of antenna supporting structure # 1006376 located near the intersection of SR A and CR 346 in Ellsinore, Missouri, apparently liable for forfeiture in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for willful and repeated violation of Section 17.50 of the Commission's Rules (“Rules”).¹ Specifically, we find Alliance Communications Partners, LP apparently liable for failure to repaint its antenna structure as often as necessary to maintain good visibility.

II. BACKGROUND

2. On March 29, 2003, an agent of the Commission's Kansas City Field Office inspected a cable television antenna structure located at 36° 55' 50" North Latitude and 90° 45' 00" West Longitude, near the intersection of SR A and CR 346 in Ellsinore, Missouri. Antenna Structure Registration (“ASR”) number 1006376 was displayed on the building at the base of the tower. The Commission's ASR database showed Alliance Communications Partners, LP as owner of the antenna structure and that the structure required marking and lighting. At the time of the inspection, the paint on the structure was badly faded and peeling, resulting in poor visibility of the structure.

3. On April 2, 2003, the agent interviewed Mr. Steve Bell of Cablevision Communications, a subsidiary of Alliance Communications Partners, LP. Mr. Bell is plant manager for the cable system in Ellsinore, Missouri. Mr. Bell stated he did not know when the tower was last painted, although he thought “maybe 7 or 8 years ago,” and that the company had known for a couple of years that this tower needed repainting. Mr. Bell stated that no estimates of cost or time frames for tower painting had been obtained.

III. DISCUSSION

4. Section 17.50 of the Rules states that antenna structures requiring painting under this

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 17.50.

part shall be cleaned or repainted as often as necessary to maintain good visibility. Alliance Communications Partners, LP is the registered owner of antenna structure number 1006376 and is responsible for maintaining the structure's marking.² The ASR for this structure requires that the structure be painted. From at least March 29, 2003, through April 2, 2003, Alliance Communications Partners, LP failed to maintain good visibility of its antenna structure. Based on the evidence before us, we find that Alliance Communications Partners, LP willfully³ and repeatedly⁴ violated Section 17.50 of the Rules by failing to clean or repaint the antenna structure as often as necessary to maintain good visibility of the antenna structure markings.

5. Pursuant to Section 1.80(b)(4) of the Rules,⁵ the base forfeiture amount for failure to comply with the prescribed marking is \$10,000. In assessing the monetary forfeiture amount, we must also take into account the statutory factors set forth in Section 503(b)(2)(D) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("Act"), which include the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violation, and with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other such matters as justice may require.⁶ Considering the entire record and applying the factors listed above, this case warrants a \$10,000 forfeiture.

IV. ORDERING CLAUSES

6. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT, pursuant to Section 503(b) of the Act,⁷ and Sections 0.111, 0.311 and 1.80 of the Rules,⁸ Alliance Communications Partners, LP is hereby NOTIFIED of this APPARENT LIABILITY FOR A FORFEITURE in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for willful and repeated violation of Section 17.50 of the Rules by failing to clean or repaint its antenna structure as often as necessary to maintain good visibility of the antenna structure markings.

7. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT, pursuant to Section 1.80 of the Rules, within thirty days of the release date of this NAL, Alliance Communications Partners, LP SHALL PAY the full amount of the proposed forfeiture or SHALL FILE a written statement seeking reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture.

² See 47 C.F.R. § 17.6(a).

³ Section 312(f)(1) of the Act, 47 U.S.C. § 312(f)(1), which applies to violations for which forfeitures are assessed under Section 503(b) of the Act, provides that "[t]he term 'willful', when used with reference to the commission or omission of any act, means the conscious and deliberate commission or omission of such act, irrespective of any intent to violate any provision of this Act" See *Southern California Broadcasting Co.*, 6 FCC Rcd 4387-88 (1991).

⁴ The term "repeated," when used with reference to the commission or omission of any act, "means the commission or omission of such act more than once or, if such commission or omission is continuous, for more than one day." 47 U.S.C. § 312(f)(2).

⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 1.80(b)(4).

⁶ 47 U.S.C. § 503(b)(2)(D).

⁷ 47 U.S.C. § 503(b).

⁸ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.111, 0.311, 1.80.

8. Payment of the forfeiture may be made by mailing a check or similar instrument, payable to the order of the Federal Communications Commission, to the Forfeiture Collection Section, Finance Branch, Federal Communications Commission, P.O. Box 73482, Chicago, Illinois 60673-7482. The payment should note the NAL/Acct. No. and FRN referenced above. Requests for payment of the full amount of this NAL under an installment plan should be sent to: Chief, Revenue and Receivables Operations Group, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.⁹

9. The response, if any, must be mailed to Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington DC 20554, Attn: Enforcement Bureau-Technical & Public Safety Division and MUST INCLUDE THE NAL/Acct. No. referenced above.

10. The Commission will not consider reducing or canceling a forfeiture in response to a claim of inability to pay unless the petitioner submits: (1) federal tax returns for the most recent three-year period; (2) financial statements prepared according to generally accepted accounting practices ("GAAP"); or (3) some other reliable and objective documentation that accurately reflects the petitioner's current financial status. Any claim of inability to pay must specifically identify the basis for the claim by reference to the financial documentation submitted.

11. Under the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2002, Pub L. No. 107-198, 116 Stat. 729 (June 28, 2002), the FCC is engaged in a two-year tracking process regarding the size of entities involved in forfeitures. If you qualify as a small entity and if you wish to be treated as a small entity for tracking purposes, please so certify to us within thirty (30) days of this NAL, either in your response to the NAL or in a separate filing to be sent to the Technical & Public Safety Division. Your certification should indicate whether you, including your parent entity and its subsidiaries, meet one of the definitions set forth in the list provided by the FCC's Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) set forth in Attachment A of this Notice of Apparent Liability. This information will be used for tracking purposes only. Your response or failure to respond to this question will have no effect on your rights and responsibilities pursuant to Section 503(b) of the Communications Act. If you have questions regarding any of the information contained in Attachment A, please contact OCBO at (202) 418-0990.

12. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT a copy of this NAL shall be sent by regular mail and Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested to Alliance Communications Partners, LP, 360 S. Monroe, Suite 600, Denver, CO. 80209.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Robert C. McKinney
Kansas City Office
Enforcement Bureau

Attachment

⁹ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1914.